

## Loksado Community Participation in Improving Nature Tourism in Loksado

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### Abstract

Tourism as a leading sector is expected to be one of the engines of economic growth, this can be seen from the contribution of tourism to economic growth and creation of job opportunities, increasing people's incomes and equitable development. Loksado District, South Hulu Sungai Regency, South Kalimantan Province as a natural tourist spot that has beauty and is an attraction for South Kalimantan and has become a sector of excellence in Loksado. In this study the authors used the observational interview research method in seeking information and data about the topics discussed. This study aims to find out how the participation of the Loksado community in improving nature tourism in Loksado. The participation or social participation of the people in Loksado is very high, especially in terms of advancing the districts in Loksado or the community itself. As is the case in the development of tourist objects in Loksado, social forms and local community participation, namely, can play an active role in developing tourism products and services in Loksado. The local government and the community still need to increase cooperation and participation in tourism in Loksado. The local government and the tourism agency must socialize with the relevant Loksado community in developing and increasing tourism in Loksado. One thing that is also necessary is to add training from the local government, in order to add insight, speaking skills and foreign language skills to the community.

**Keywords:** Participation, Loksado, Nature Tourism.



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### INTRODUCTION

Community participation is one of the principles of sustainable tourism development. Communities must participate actively in the development of sustainable tourism. Local community participation must be involved from the start. This means that the community must be involved from the tourism development planning process, then during management, and until the monitoring and evaluation process takes place. Involvement from the start of the process can make the local community more aware of the program and will create a sense of ownership of the program. (Muchammad Satrio Wibowo & Lutfi Arviana Belia, 2023). This community participation in the maintenance of natural resources owned is a large part and has the potential to become a tourist attraction. In addition, involving the community in tourism development processes and efforts is very important, so that the community itself has a sense of responsibility for preserving the potential of its natural resources.

Tourism is one of the driving industries of a country's economy. The Indonesian economy has also increased because it is supported by tourism sector activities from tourist activities. The development of the tourism sector can provide economic benefits, especially to local people who live in tourism areas (Mariska 2018). The community as the main component in tourism development has an important role in supporting tourism development aimed at developing local potential originating from nature, socio-culture or the economy of the community, so as to maintain cleanliness and maintenance of the environment around

tourist objects. In other words, the local community has the potential to manage and guarantee the sustainability of the natural attractions around it, and besides that, the community can also enjoy the results.

Loksado is a sub-district, in the southern headwaters district, South Kalimantan province. Loksado is also an area of tourist attraction and also the prima donna of the most popular natural tourism to be visited by domestic and foreign tourists. The Loksado tourist destination continues to stretch after the Covid 19 pandemic status ended. Tourist attractions in the Loksado area are as follows: Haratai Waterfall, Riam Hanai Waterfall, Kilat Api Waterfall, Rampah Menjangan Waterfall, Pemandian Anggang Waterfall, Tinggiran Hayam Waterfall, Tanuhi Hot Springs, Loksado Dayak tourism, 43 Balai ( traditional houses), Mount Kentawan, Balanting Paring (Bamboo Rafting), and others. The Loksado tourist area also provides comfortable facilities, so many travelers spend the night to feel the cold air of the Meratus mountains.

In the development of community-based tourism, the community is the main component that has a very important role in supporting regional tourism development which is directed at developing local potential. The lack of understanding of the community in its role is due to a lack of information, outreach or training provided by the government. Loksado community participation in improving natural tourism in Loksado still needs to be improved. Community participation is needed in developing and increasing tourism in Loksado because it is also their responsibility to maintain tourist attractions. This study aims to analyze how the participation of the Loksado community in improving nature tourism in Loksado.

## **RESEARCH METHODS**

The method used in this research is descriptive qualitative research. By using the method of observation, observation and interviews directly in the field. The research location is an area in Loksado and the research or data collection was carried out on May 11, 2023. The research being studied is how the participation of the Loksado community in improving natural tourism objects in Loksado and also the management of tourist attractions in Loksado. The procedures carried out in this study were steps such as: choosing a theme, determining a title, compiling instruments, determining the direction of research, collecting data, presenting data, compiling reports. The data analysis technique used in this research is using interviews and direct observation in the field and is used to obtain valid information.

## **RESEARCH RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

### **History of Tourism in Loksado**

The name Loksado comes from Loksidi which is taken from the Meratus Dayak language, namely Luluk and Sidi which means really muddy. The origin of this name is because when the village of Loksado was built it coincided with a flash flood in Upper Banyu, an area which was the forerunner of the current Loksado. Loksado which is located in the Meratus mountains which is one of the natural tourist areas. Tourism in Loksado existed in 1992 and only developed in the 2000s. According to local residents, Ahmad and Arfianti, there used to be tours in Loksado but were still unknown to many people. Then there were Caucasians who came here and looked at the Haratai waterfall. Since then, there have been many visitors to Loksado. So the results of research by interviewing local people show that tourism in Loksado has existed for a long time, but only started to be recognized by domestic and foreign people in the 2000s. The tourist objects in the Loksado area are as follows: Haratai Waterfall, Riam Hanai Waterfall, Kilat Api Waterfall, Rampah Menjangan Waterfall, Pemandian Anggang Waterfall, Tinggiran Hayam Waterfall, Tanuhi Hot Springs, Loksado Dayak tourism, 43 Balai (

traditional houses), Mount Kentawan, Balanting Paring (Bamboo Rafting), and others. Each of these attractions has its own advantages and attractions.

### **Tourism Manager at Loksado**

Loksado has so many tourist attractions such as the Haratai waterfall, the Tanuhi river tubing, the Tanuhi hot springs, the lightning fire waterfall, bamboo rafting and others. The management of tourist objects in Loksado is directly from the regional government and the South Kalimantan tourism office. According to one of the sources, Arfianti, the tourist attraction in Loksado has its own coordinator. For managers of tourist objects in Loksado directly from the local government and also the tourism office. While the workers in Loksado tourism are the local Loksado people themselves

For the care and maintenance of these tourist attractions, a fee is required. Retribution fees are obtained from entrance tickets to tourist attractions. Therefore, to enter each tourist attraction, visitors must pay a ticket at a price of Rp. 5,000 to the coordinator of each tourist object entered. What determines the ticket price is the coordinator of the attraction itself. As said by Arfiati as one of the informants in the research, it is for tickets that determine the price, each tourist attraction coordinator, is not from the regional government or the tourism agency. And each entrance ticket to the tourist attraction costs 5,000 thousand rupiah.

Tourist objects in Loksado are currently very interested and popular to be visited by domestic and foreign tourists, because they have beautiful and beautiful natural beauty, not only that, after observing tourist attractions in Loksado, they are very well cared for and maintained by the manager. and also the local community seen from the cleanliness of each tourist object. Cleanliness and cool air in Loksado make tourists feel comfortable and amazed. Every year visitors to tourist attractions in Loksado continue to get an increase. Every year there is always an increase, but when Covid 19 hit, tourists visiting tours at Loksado experienced a decline and after Covid 19 tourists visiting tours at Loksado experienced an increase especially during the holiday season, and even now it continues to increase.

### **Forms of Loksado Community Participation in the Development of Tourism Objects in Loksado**

According to Soemarto (2003) that community participation is a process when the community as individuals as well as social groups and organizations, take part and influence the process of planning, implementing and monitoring policies that directly affect people's lives. This community participation in the maintenance of natural resources owned is a large part and has the potential to become a tourist attraction. In addition, involving the community in tourism development processes and efforts is very important, so that the community itself has a sense of responsibility for preserving the potential of its natural resources. The community as the main component in tourism development has an important role in supporting tourism development aimed at developing local potential originating from nature, socio-culture or the economy of the community, so as to maintain cleanliness and maintenance of the environment around tourist objects as well as in the development of existing tourist objects in Loksado social forms and local community participation, namely being able to play an active role in developing tourism products and services in Loksado.

According to Ahmad, the resource person in the research, this form of community participation in improving the tourist attraction in Loksado is involved in making bamboo lanting and also playing a role and supporting activities in this tourist area. Organizing mutual cooperation activities, such as cleaning rivers or cleaning tourist areas from trash. This will help maintain the natural beauty and comfort of visitors. Community participation is also very

important in the decision-making process related to the development of tourist objects so that it cannot be separated from the cultural values of the local community and there is a decrease in environmental quality, so that tourism management will be able to create a prosperous society along with natural preservation. The local government can involve the community in forums or meetings to discuss development plans for the problems they face, and ideas for advancing them. According to Rusita, one of the resource persons in the research on tourist objects in Loksado, the participation and cooperation of the local community as well as from the tourism agency are improving and developing tourist attractions in Loksado.

The form of real community participation in improving and developing tourist objects in Loksado is as follows: Maintaining cleanliness, the community maintains the cleanliness of Loksado tourism objects by cleaning up trash in the tourist area, and there are also local people who work in Loksado tourism. Maintaining security around, Treating the community in welcoming tourists in a friendly manner, Maintaining Facilities, and Making Bamboo Rafting. With the form of active participation from the community, the form of community participation is to supervise and control existing tourism development by being involved in determining tourism development goals, identifying resources that are protected, developed and utilized for the development and management of tourist attractions. So that the development of tourist objects in Loksado can run well, sustainably and profitably for all parties involved. The development of tourism does not only require human resources who have high competence, but also those who have medium and low competence. Local communities synergize with each other in supporting tourism in Loksado. Real participation from the community in supporting what has been and is still being carried out is making bamboo lanting together, maintaining or caring for every tourist object in Loksado such as maintaining the cleanliness and beauty of every tourist attraction in Loksado.

Every tourist object in Loksado has regulations that must be obeyed by the public, especially tourists. The following are the rules that must be obeyed: Dress modestly when bathing in a pool (Don't wear clothes that are too revealing), Don't bring sharp weapons, Don't bring alcohol and drugs, Must be able to swim (If small children must be accompanied by an adult), Follow what is said directed by the coordinator/guide. It is this rule that must be obeyed by the public and tourists visiting the Loksado tourist attraction. if this rule is violated then it will have an impact on the people of Loksado itself. Its connection with Pancasila values is in the 2nd precept "Fair and Civilized Humanity" by obeying the rules that have been stated. This regulation also states how a person must have good ethics in traveling. In improving or developing tourist objects in Loksado, there are definitely obstacles to be faced. According to Ahmad, the informant in the research, so far the obstacles that are felt often occur when it rains and the water becomes large/floods so tourists/visitors cannot play in the water, such as riding bamboo rafters and riding floats, because when the water conditions create a risk of danger to safety .

## **CONCLUSION**

Involvement The social participation of the Loksado community in the development and advancement of tourism in Loksado has been seen well, as well as participating in maintaining the cleanliness and beauty of tourist objects in Loksado. However, the local government and the community still need to increase cooperation and participation in tourism in Loksado. The local government and the tourism agency must socialize with the relevant Loksado community in developing and improving tourism at Loksado, so that in the future tourism at Loksado becomes more advanced and becomes the best choice tourist destination in South Kalimantan, even in foreign countries. So that this will also have a major impact on the

welfare of the people in Loksado Village, especially the southern Upper River in general. The need to add training from the local government, in order to add insight, speaking skills and foreign language skills for the community to work at Loksado tourism objects, because what we know Loksado tourism visitors are not only local people, outside the city, but Loksado tourism visitors can be from foreign countries. And for future researchers to dig deeper into community participation in improving tourist attractions in Loksado, is it only the Loksado people who participate in this participation or people from other regions also take part in this participation.

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